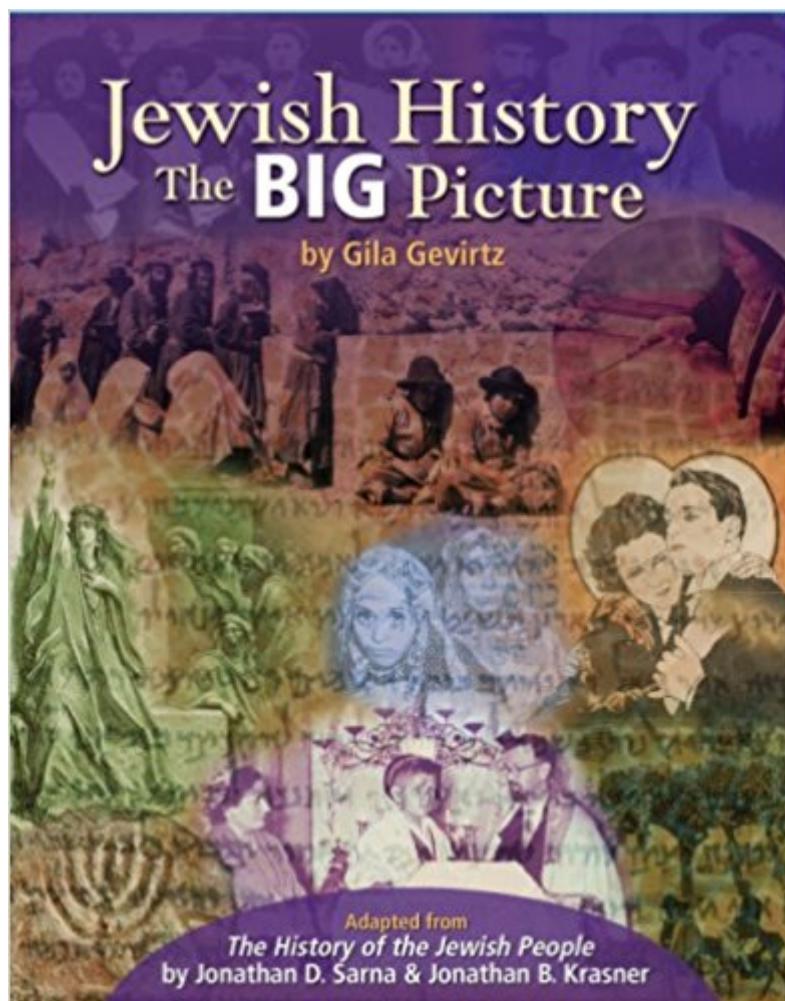


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Jewish History: The Big Picture



Synopsis

This lively and accessible volume presents the full range of Jewish history, from biblical to contemporary times. Adapted from the two-volume award-winning work, *The History of the Jewish People* by Professors Jonathan Sarna and Jonathan Krasner, this single volume treats readers to a fast-paced account of Jewish history that is grounded in scholarship and brimming with information on topics as diverse as the development of Christianity beyond its Jewish roots into a new religion and the revival of Hebrew as a spoken language. The text is filled with colorful anecdotal detail about Jewish communities throughout history and around the world, such as how Passover was celebrated on the Civil War battlefield and the origins of Beta Israel, the Ethiopian-Jewish community. The broad array of graphics 16 maps, 12 charts, 27 timelines, and more than 100 photographs is sure to engage readers and enrich their appreciation and understanding of Jewish history.

Book Information

Paperback: 288 pages

Publisher: Behrman House Publishing (May 23, 2008)

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Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 9 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #140,750 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #104 in Books > Religion & Spirituality > Judaism > History #122 in Books > History > World > Religious > Judaism #427 in Books > History > World > Jewish

Customer Reviews

I used this as a textbook for seventh and eighth graders at a non-affiliated community Jewish day school. I found this to be an excellent book -- detailed enough to be genuinely useful without becoming overwhelming. It presented the material in a Jewish context without value judgements as to which movement or approach would be best, which was particularly helpful in a classroom that represented a spectrum of affiliations. The pacing of the chapters and the units was particularly well-done, allowing for a manageable amount of information to be included in the almost-weekly tests and unit tests. We were able to cover about half of the book devoting roughly three hours a

week. The vocabulary and syntax was understandable for seventh/eighth graders, yet I do not think that it would be received as overly elementary or simplistic if presented to adults. Many of the parents, in fact, expressed a desire to read the book.

Great, simple, complete overview of Judaism from antiquity to the modern day. Interspersed photos, historical quotes/details and short chapters (~10 pages) makes this an interesting, thorough read. Worth the purchase!

This book is easy to read. Well designed. It contains core jewish history events. All ages may enjoy reading, can get important information. Thanks a lot.

This is truly a wonderful book and I highly recommend it!

Excellent book to give to a Bar Mitzva child

Great book

a good book for a basic overview. I used it on my thesis entitled: Those Who Heard It First: The Political Implications of the Sermon on the Mount to Jesus' Jewish Audience as found on too. It gave some good research points I could use.

Based upon Jonathan Sarna and Jonathan Krasner's exhaustive two-volume compendium "The History of the Jewish People", Gila Gevirtz and the Behrman House publishing company have produced "Jewish History: The Big Picture", a 288-page compendium of succinctly presented Jewish history replete with anecdotal facts and stories showcasing the diversity of events and elements of Judaism ranging from the resurrection of Hebrew as a living language, to the celebration of Passover on an American civil war battlefield, to the Jewish roots of Christianity, to Jewish communities around the world and down through the millennia. Of special note are the chapters focusing on the Holocaust, the rise of the modern state of Israel, and contemporary American Jewry. Enhanced with graphics, maps, charts, time-lines, photographs, and a comprehensive index, "Jewish History: The Big Picture" is highly recommended reading and a welcome addition to personal, family, school, and community library Judaic Studies and Jewish History reference collections and supplemental reading lists.

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